GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3084
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2008
DEVELOPMENT OF RURAL RETAIL OUTLETS BY IOC
Vijay Krishna Shri

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a): whether Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) proposes to develop rural retail in a big way by modernizing / expanding domestic oil market;

(b): if so, the details thereof; and

(c): the action plan of the Government to develop this sector in Bihar, Eastern Uttar Pradesh and Jharkhand to improve the economy of these regions?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL)

(a) & (b): Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC) has reported that the Corporation is developing its rural network as Kisan Seva Kendras (KSKs) in the domestic rural market. As on 1.12.2008, IOC has 2358 KSKs all over the country. KSKs are set up as fuel stations and IOC provides basic equipments such as Dispensing Units, Tanks, etc. so that the fuel needs of the rural customer is met.

In addition to this, IOC has also entered into strategic alliances for providing non- fuel needs of these rural customers such as fertilizers, seeds, pesticides, items of daily needs, insurance, etc. KSKs impact the local economy by way of creating conveniences and savings for the local customers and by generating opportunity for entrepreneurship for the local dealers, who in turn give employment to local people at the KSK.

(c): Expansion of retail outlets network in the country, including the State of Bihar, Uttar Pradesh (inclusive of Eastern UP) and Jharkhand are made on the basis of feasibility studies of identified locations by oil marketing companies, viz., Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC), Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPC) and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPC) which are then included in the State Retail Marketing Plans of the respective OMCs.